

The Romulus News

JANUARY 27, 2006 – FEBRUARY 9, 2006

"the little paper"

VOLUME 19 NUMBER 13

Timely Tidbits ...

Chamber To Host Auction/Wine-tasting

The Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce will host its seventh annual Silent Auction and Wine-tasting/Dinner at the Romulus Doubletree Hotel (31500 Wick Road) on Friday, February 10.

Attendees will enjoy a four-course, gourmet meal and a number of wines chosen to complement the evening's fare, as well as an opportunity to bid on a variety of attractive items donated by local businesses.

In addition, Doubletree is offering guests a special room rate of \$69 (plus tax) *that evening only*.

Advance tickets (\$45 each) for the auction and wine-tasting/dinner are available from the Chamber office. Since space is limited, early registration is strongly urged.

For more information, please call 734-326-4290.

Register Now for Adult/Community Ed

Brochures with information about classes offered by Romulus Adult and Community Education are now available at all Romulus schools, the district's administrative office, and the Romulus Public Library. Available classes – which begin the week of January 30 – include high-school completion, GED preparation, and nurse-assistant training, as well as community enrichment offerings in subjects as various as money management and investing, physical fitness, parenting, dog obedience, and American Sign Language.

For more information, please call 734-532-1953.

Parenting Your Preschooler

Sign up now for this series of four workshops, to be held at the Burton Center (35408 Beverly) each Wednesday in February from 6 to 7:15 p.m. Although the program is free, advance registration is required.

For more information, please call 734-532-1953. □

Lambert: City of Romulus Is "Sound and Filled with Promise for an Even Better Tomorrow"

In his annual "State of the City" address, delivered during a January 17 luncheon hosted by the Greater Romulus Chamber of Commerce, Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert spoke with pride of the accomplishments of his first term in office, and looked forward to the next four years with great optimism.

"I am honored to be here today representing you as mayor for a new term," he said. "I want to thank our residents for their vote of confidence. The voters showed their overwhelming approval of what is happening in Romulus, and want us to continue our drive into the future."

Lambert began by thanking the many people—including City Clerk Linda Choate, Treasurer Pamela Kersey, the Romulus City Council, the City's various department heads and employees, and the 34th District Court bench—who have been instrumental in the City's growth and success.

"Good leadership is often derived from teamwork, and we have what I consider to be the best team possible."

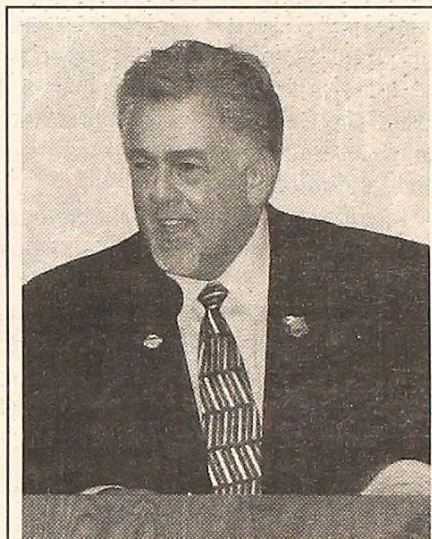
One of the most important accomplishments of 2005, according to Lambert, was the construction of the new Romulus Senior Center.

"We now have a beautiful ... state-of-the-art [facility] that will provide quality service to our community now and for future generations," said Lambert. "This new facility was built with Community Development Block Grants and Downtown Development Authority funding ... at no increase in taxes to our residents."

Lambert also noted the start of work on the City's new recreation center, which will be completed using Tax Increment Finance Authority (TIFA) funds—again, at no tax increase to residents. The 88,000-square-foot facility will feature an aquatics complex, fitness areas, basketball and tennis courts, an outdoor skating rink, a walking track, multipurpose spaces, and concession areas among its many amenities.

Much of Lambert's speech concerned business development.

"More than a billion dollars worth of investment has been committed to our



Mayor Alan R. Lambert's "State of the City" address focused on new development.

city in the past four years alone," he said. "And, with these new developments, we are poised to bring over \$1.2 billion in investment and over 8,000 new jobs to Romulus and southeastern Michigan."

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Recognition Month Honors Board Members



Working to ensure that students attending Romulus Community Schools enjoy the very best in educational opportunities are the members of the Board of Education: (from left) front – Niema White (treasurer), Celeste Roscoe (vice-president), April Frayer (president), and Kenneth Mientkiewicz (secretary); back – Thomas Kuderik, Betty Lenossi, and Cheryle Buckley (trustees). (For story, see page 6.)

Letter to the Editor

Senior Center Commended for Service

To the Editor:

I am writing to commend the Romulus Senior Center for its services to local seniors such as myself and my husband.

Recently, we found ourselves suddenly without transportation and unable to make the trip to Annapolis Hospital, where my husband was scheduled for an array of important medical tests. I called the Senior Center for help and, within an hour, its special bus was at our door and ready to serve us.

Following our business at the hospital, the bus arrived promptly and took us back home.

We would like to thank the Romulus Senior Center for its wonderful service, practically on the spur of the moment. Also, our driver – Oscar Hamilton – was very helpful and efficient.

Thanks again to all concerned.

Sincerely,
Janet (and John) Brown
Romulus

* * *

Editor's note: All letters to the editor MUST contain the writer's signature and a telephone number where he/she can be reached in order to verify the letter's authenticity.

Names will be withheld by request only in exceptional cases where, in our opinion, there is a legitimate reason to do so. All letters requesting anonymity will be treated confidentially, regardless of whether or not they are published in the paper.

The Romulus News reserves the right to edit all letters for clarity and, if necessary, brevity. □

Mayor Gives "State of the City" Address

continued from page 1

That's a clear statement by the business community of its confidence in Romulus."

Chief among these anticipated developments are a horse-racing track and a casino complex.

"When our voters approved the Romulus racetrack ... we made sure all approvals and paperwork for the Michigan Downs [facility] were completed at the City level," said Lambert. "Last spring, I participated in a press conference held by Racing Commissioner Cynthia White that confirmed that [racetrack developer] Magna had indeed received its track license, and we are hopeful of a groundbreaking sometime this year."

With regard to casino development, Lambert noted, "Last October, we announced that the Hannahville Indians committed to investing millions of dollars in a casino that will bring 3,300 permanent new jobs to Romulus. ... To prove their commitment, the tribe has purchased land located in the Metro World development area.

"This administration remains committed to bringing a destination-style resort, casino, and convention center to Romulus," he added. "We continue to lobby at all levels of government to make this project a reality."

Other recent or coming development in Romulus – which, said Lambert, was named "one of the hottest ZIP codes in Michigan for 2005" – include:

- completion of the Bravada shopping center at Wayne and Van Born roads;
- Public Service Credit Union's plans for a 21,000-square-foot, full-service banking facility and corporate office on Merriman Road;

- approximately one million square feet of new industrial space; and
- about 45,000 square feet of new retail space.

In addition, the City has resumed planning talks with the developer of a mixed-use residential and retail development totaling over 100,000 square feet of retail space and 168 more residential units at Pennsylvania and Middlebelt.

Another big residential development is planned for the downtown area, where the removal/renovation of old structures and the addition of new streetscaping, signage, and lighting has created a more welcoming environment, said Lambert.

"We are excited that Destiny Construction will soon begin breaking ground and building new brownstone-style condominiums on Goddard. Many consider this to be the most important economic development project in downtown since the opening of Romulus Market Place."

Lambert added that over 500 new single-family homes are in various stages of development/construction.

"Our residential growth also provides us with the figures we need to bring new shopping and retail development to Romulus," he stated.

Finally, Lambert pointed with pride to the City's maintenance and even improvement of services like public safety, despite cuts in government funding.

"We have had no layoffs or reduction in services ... [but] we must find new and innovative ways to bring new revenues to this city. Our detailed plans and willingness to work hard to bring new developments to Romulus will, in turn, help us bring new revenue to Romulus," he said. □



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The Police Beat

Thanks to Sergeant Bryan Cozzaglio for submitting the following summary of the Romulus Police Department's significant activity from Monday, January 9, through Sunday, January 22. (Editor's note: The information below is presented in the following format: date, time, type of call, and general location.)

Monday, January 9

- 4:15 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 6160 Tyndall)
- 4:51 a.m. – 911 Cellular (block of 15700 Taft)
- 7:43 a.m. – Larceny (block of 27600 Hildebrandt)
- 8:07 a.m. – Larceny (block of 28800 Cullen Dr.)
- 11:46 a.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 12:22 p.m. – Unlawful Driving Away of an Automobile (UDAA) (block of 6800 Cypress)
- 1:06 p.m. – Missing Person (block of 8840 Whitehorn)
- 4:36 p.m. – Larceny (block of 39200 Buckingham Dr.)
- 5:26 p.m. – Larceny (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:27 p.m. – Robbery (block of 9460 Biddle)
- 7:59 p.m. – Felonious Assault (block of 7970 Fallow Ct.)
- 10:12 p.m. – Robbery (block of 30500 Redwood)

Tuesday, January 10

- 2:19 a.m. – Property Damage/ Malicious Destruction of Property (PD/MDOP) (block of 15800 Springhill)
- 3:28 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 7150 Kempa)
- 5:09 a.m. – UDAA (block of 7000 El Paso)
- 5:28 a.m. – UDAA (block of 38600 Cherokee)
- 7:47 a.m. – UDAA (block of 30100 Eureka)
- 10:26 a.m. – Breaking & Entering (B&E) (block of 6690 Ball)
- 11:02 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35000 Michele)
- 11:35 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 34800 Michele)
- 12:23 p.m. – Panic Alarm (block of 38600 Nottingham Dr.)
- 1:34 p.m. – Threats (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:55 p.m. – Larceny (block of 37500 Northline)
- 4:30 p.m. – Juvenile Complaint/ Runaway (JC/R) (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:36 p.m. – Homicide (block of 6190 Dexter)

- 10:47 p.m. – JC/R (block of 32700 Sand Piper Dr.)
- 11:50 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 36500 Romulus)

Wednesday, January 11

- 2:37 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 29300 Airport Dr.)
- 3:48 a.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 33900 Ecorse)
- 8:11 a.m. – Larceny (block of 15400 Oakwood Dr.)
- 8:49 a.m. – K-9 (block of 28600 Northline)
- 9:24 a.m. – Larceny (block of 16800 Braeburn Dr.)
- 2:22 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6310 Central)
- 3:18 p.m. – JC/R (block of 6300 Carnegie)
- 4:20 p.m. – Fight (block of 35700 Garner)
- 4:40 p.m. – Off-road Vehicle (ORV) Complaint (block of 39400 Wabash)
- 5:37 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 7000 Merriman)
- 11:13 p.m. – JC/R (block of 36600 Menton)

Thursday, January 12

- 9:50 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 7780 Merriman)
- 11:41 a.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 29100 Airport Dr.)
- 5:45 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 7:17 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 35500 Stephanie)
- 10:25 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 11000 Delano)
- 10:27 p.m. – OUIL (block of 29400 Van Born)

Friday, January 13

- 12:25 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 28400 Highland)
- 1:19 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 5900 Frederic)
- 1:56 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15500 Orchard)
- 2:50 a.m. – Death Investigation (block of 6710 Hunt)
- 6:45 a.m. – Larceny (block of 8600 Wickham)
- 8:14 a.m. – Larceny (block of 7750 Canterbury Dr.)
- 10:12 a.m. – Larceny (block of 35500 Garner)
- 11:26 a.m. – Assault & Battery (A&B) (block of 8100 Cogswell)
- 12:25 p.m. – Threats (block of 37400 Wick)
- 4:20 p.m. – B&E (block of 6050 Colorado)
- 4:58 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 32200 Augusta Dr.)

- 9:32 p.m. – Robbery (block of 28800 Highland)
- 10:51 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 5890 Airborne)

Saturday, January 14

- 6:42 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 10300 Ozga)
- 12:40 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6320 Cordell)
- 6:00 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15400 Orchard)
- 7:49 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 30600 Flynn Dr.)
- 9:41 p.m. – Drug-related Activity/ Investigation (Violation of Public Health Code, or VPHC) (block of 35300 Van Born)
- 10:36 p.m. – Larceny (block of 7060 Birchdale)
- 11:25 p.m. – Man with a Weapon (block of 7080 Niagara)

Sunday, January 15

- 12:20 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 9000 Wickham)
- 2:12 a.m. – B&E (block of 35700 Garner)
- 2:50 a.m. – Operating Under the Influence of Liquor (OUIL) (block of 5800 Middlebelt)
- 10:59 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 13600 Kent)
- 1:36 p.m. – Abandoned Vehicle (block of 9400 Washington)
- 9:00 p.m. – Fight (block of 37100 Menton)

Monday, January 16

- 7:47 a.m. – UDAA (block of 37800 Westvale)

- 7:54 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6770 Metroplex)
- 8:50 a.m. – B&E (block of 15300 Orchard)
- 11:24 a.m. – B&E (block of 10100 Ozga)
- 1:05 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 11100 Harrison)
- 1:52 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6110 Central)
- 4:02 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 4:56 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 8600 Merriman)
- 5:47 p.m. – Loud Music (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 6:07 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 7810 Wayne)
- 8:36 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 9:58 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6360 Heyer)

Tuesday, January 17

- 4:05 a.m. – UDAA (block of 6760 Merriman)
- 4:29 a.m. – Medical Assistance (block of 6170 Tyndall)
- 4:35 a.m. – Larceny (block of 6740 Merriman)
- 6:26 a.m. – Rescue (block of 5800 Inkster)
- 6:42 a.m. – UDAA (block of 7980 Silo Dr.)
- 6:50 a.m. – UDAA (block of 6800 Laramie)
- 8:39 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6730 Middlebelt)

continued on page 4

Romulus Man Arrested in Homicide

The fatal shooting of 20-year-old Kenny Anthony Davis of Wayne has led to the arrest of the Romulus man believed responsible for his death.

On January 10, at approximately 4:36 p.m., Romulus police officers responded to a call at the 6100 block of Dexter, where Davis had been shot once with what witnesses called a sawed-off shotgun. Further investigation led police to conclude that the shooter was 19-year-old Roderick Adrial Poole, who reportedly argued with Davis about a fistfight that occurred between their younger sisters several months ago.

Poole's sister, 18-year-old Whitney Sharise Poole of Romulus, was allegedly present at the time of the shooting, and attempted to help her brother dispose of his weapon before eventually returning it to him.

Police have not released the name of Davis's sister, who is a minor.

Both Roderick and Whitney later turned themselves in.

According to Detective Sergeant Jeff Lazarski, Roderick is charged with one count each of first-degree murder (which carries a mandatory sentence of life in prison without parole) and felony firearm. Whitney is charged with one count of accessory after the fact (five-year maximum).

The Pooles' preliminary exam will be conducted by 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley on Wednesday, February 1.

Poole's shotgun, which he supposedly dumped in a nearby field, has not yet been recovered. Anyone with information about the weapon or other aspects of the shooting should call Lazarski at 734-942-6857. □

The Police Beat

continued from page 3

- 8:42 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 11100 Harrison)
- 9:10 a.m. – UDAA (block of 6780 Merriman)
- 9:13 a.m. – Miscellaneous Duties (block of 12600 Wayne)
- 9:24 a.m. – Missing Person (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 9:59 a.m. – Larceny (block of 36300 Eureka)
- 12:29 p.m. – B&E (block of 15900 Hannan)
- 6:48 p.m. – Shots Fired (block of 6810 Niagara)
- 11:38 p.m. – Robbery (block of 7600 Merriman)

Wednesday, January 18

- 7:13 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 27600 Hildebrandt)
- 9:15 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 34800 Malcolm)
- 11:36 a.m. – Overdose (block of 28600 Northline)
- 3:02 p.m. – Death Investigation (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 3:06 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 31700 Henry Ruff)
- 3:09 p.m. – UDAA (block of 9990 Diane)
- 5:49 p.m. – Fight (block of 5800 Wayne)
- 10:45 p.m. – Rescue (block of 35500 Stephanie)
- 10:51 p.m. – ORV Complaint (block of 10600 Miriam)
- 11:56 p.m. – Robbery (block of 31400 Ecorse)

Thursday, January 19

- 8:04 a.m. – Larceny (block of 27600 Hildebrandt)
- 8:29 a.m. – Missing Person (block of 9500 Biddle)
- 8:44 a.m. – Larceny (block of 7520 Cogswell)
- 9:02 a.m. – Larceny (block of 34200 Beverly)
- 9:25 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 14700 Five M. Center Dr.)
- 10:15 a.m. – Larceny (block of 8600 Merriman)
- 11:37 a.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 5840 Merriman)
- 4:22 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 6:49 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 5920 Metro)
- 8:57 p.m. – Robbery (block of 31400 Ecorse)
- 10:17 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 34900 Ecorse)
- 10:31 p.m. – JC/R (block of 7270 Kempa)
- 11:04 p.m. – Neighbor Trouble (block of 6790 Merriman)
- 11:18 p.m. – Family Trouble (block of 36600 Goddard)
- 11:56 p.m. – B&E (block of 30500 Flynn Dr.)

Friday, January 20

- 10:32 a.m. – Threats (block of 5920 Metro)

- 11:03 a.m. – Larceny (block of 27900 Northline)
- 11:29 a.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 30700 Redwood)
- 11:29 a.m. – UDAA (block of 7050 El Paso)
- 11:42 a.m. – B&E (block of 9440 Biddle)
- 12:50 p.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 6790 Merriman)
- 1:17 p.m. – Larceny (block of 6730 Middlebelt)
- 2:26 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 38600 Cherokee)
- 2:46 p.m. – Mental Incapacitation (block of 5890 W. Maple)
- 2:55 p.m. – Robbery Alarm (block of 30500 Flynn Dr.)
- 3:25 p.m. – A&B (reported at RPD headquarters)
- 5:00 p.m. – A&B (block of 6170 Tyndall)
- 5:54 p.m. – Larceny (block of 36900 Goddard)
- 10:08 p.m. – Recovered UDAA (block of 38400 Van Born)

Saturday, January 21

- 12:39 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 11000 Delano)
- 1:10 a.m. – Loud Music (block of 9990 Diane)
- 3:30 a.m. – Harassment Complaint (block of 15000 Mountain Way)
- 12:20 p.m. – Missing Person (block of 10800 Adam)
- 2:23 p.m. – B&E (block of 15700 Meadow)
- 5:10 p.m. – Fraud Complaint (block of 27400 Van Born)
- 5:41 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 9950 Wayne)
- 9:45 p.m. – JC/R (block of 11000 Elmview)
- 10:16 p.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 13000 Homefield)
- 11:58 p.m. – Larceny (block of 35500 Smith)

Sunday, January 22

- 1:25 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 35800 Beverly)
- 1:38 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 6010 Airborne)
- 1:50 a.m. – Larceny (block of 9320 Essex)
- 7:32 a.m. – Family Trouble (block of 35800 Beverly)
- 8:16 a.m. – Disturbance (block of 11100 Grover)
- 9:51 a.m. – PD/MDOP (block of 6860 Amarillo)
- 11:25 a.m. – UDAA (block of 15000 Mesa Way)
- 12:57 p.m. – Larceny (block of 8230 Merriman)
- 3:18 p.m. – Larceny (block of 9000 Wickham)
- 7:25 p.m. – B&E (block of 6180 Central)
- 11:45 p.m. – Disturbance (block of 11100 Grover) □



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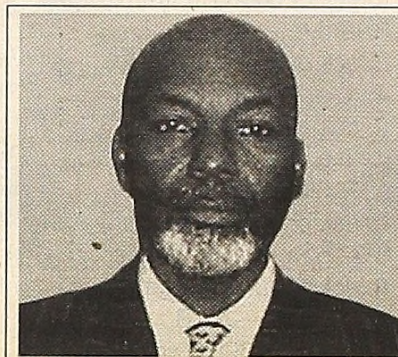
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House Begins Hearings on Graduation Requirements

By State Representative Hoon-Yung
Hopgood, 22nd District

On January 18, the House Education Committee heard testimony on the New Michigan Merit Core, as adopted by the State Board of Education. Proposed high-school graduation requirements include 18 credits in English/language arts, math, science, social science, health/physical education, fine arts/music, and global languages.

For more information about the New Michigan Merit Core, please visit <http://www.michigan.gov/mde>.

Protecting Cell Phone privacy

Governor Jennifer Granholm called for protection for cell phone users from online services that sell lists of cell phone calls. House Democrats have answered her call with a plan that will criminalize the sale and purchase of cell phone records, making such acts punishable by up to five years in prison or a \$10,000 fine. The unchecked distribution of cell phone numbers exposes people to identity theft and allows companies to delve into our private lives for profit without our consent or knowledge. □

2 Romulus Businesses Receive "Tool & Die Recovery Zone" Designation

State Senator Raymond Basham (D-Taylor) has announced that two Romulus-area businesses have received "Tool & Die Recovery Zone" designations from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. As a result of the new designation, Bawden Industries, Inc., and Euclid Machine & Manufacturing will become exempt from Michigan's single business tax and six-mill education tax, local real property taxes, and local income taxes.

"Due to foreign competition, Michigan's once-thriving tool & die industry has begun to struggle," said Basham. "Recovery Zone designations like those being granted to Bawden Industries and Euclid Machine & Manufacturing will help stabilize the industry and spur Michigan's ongoing economic recovery."

Under the program, taxes can be abated for up to 15 years.

The Michigan Department of Treasury makes reimbursements to intermediate school districts, local school districts, community college districts, and public libraries.

Romulus To Receive \$72,000 Grant for Tire Cleanup

Senator Basham also announced that Romulus will receive a \$72,285 grant to fund the removal of used tires. Governor Jennifer Granholm and Department of Environmental Quality director Steve Chester publicized the \$3.9-million Scrap Tire Cleanup Program that funds cleanup efforts in 35 Michigan counties.

"Old scrap tires are a menace to the community, as they can become a fire hazard or serve as a breeding ground for mosquitos," said Basham. "This program is a proactive effort to safeguard public health and improve environmental quality."

Award recipients have until Thurs-

day, August 31, 2006, to complete contract requirements for having scrap tires removed. All tires must be removed and processed according to a DEQ-approved tire-removal plan. **RESA Receives "Early Education" Grant**

The Wayne County Regional Educational Services Agency (WC RESA) will receive \$150,000 for early childhood development programs, according to Senator Basham.

The grant is intended to create more resources to prepare children for school through prekindergarten health and education programs.

"Early childhood education is a critically important investment in our state's long-term economic health," said Basham. "These grants will help our schools better prepare our children for success in later life."

"Everyone wins when our children get the educational support and services they need," he added.

The grant gives Wayne County RESA the funding to create a Great Start Collaborative geared toward connecting businesses, schools, and government-based agencies with civic- and faith-based organizations to help encourage long-term development of early childhood programs. Intermediate school districts like Wayne County RESA serve as the liaison for the grants, he said, but resources extend into the community.

The Great Start Collaborative project is funded through the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC), a nonprofit group created by Governor Granholm and charged with the task of focusing local efforts on early learning and childhood development. ECIC awarded a total of \$1.2 million among 14 communities.

More grants are expected as more funding becomes available. □

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Recognition Month Honors Board of Education Members

The month of January marks the annual observance of School Board Recognition Month, a time to salute the work of school board members and celebrate public education.

The observance is important, according to Romulus Community Schools superintendent Joel R. Carr, because board members' service to the community is too often taken for granted.

"As citizen leaders, individual school board members face complex and demanding challenges," said Carr. "It is their job to establish a vision for the educational program, design a structure to achieve that vision, and strongly advocate continuous improvements in student learning. That job entails attending meetings; reading and studying reports, agendas, and proposals; and making difficult financial decisions for their respective communities."

According to Carr, Romulus Board of Education members contribute hundreds of hours each year in crafting policies, hiring top-notch administrators, attending school programs recognizing student achievements, and listening to student, parent, staff, and community concerns.

"Their dedication to education and their care and concern for students drives them to work together to provide a better future for Romulus children," he said.

Carr believes that the Romulus Board of Education especially exemplifies this year's theme: School Boards Make Stars out of Students.

"Our board's continued efforts to promote educational excellence is easily seen in our students' exceptional performance," he stated. "For example, over the past six years, 289 Romulus High School students have won a combined \$722,500 in Michigan Educational Assessment Program [MEAP] scholarships, and Romulus High School's graduating classes have averaged between \$700,000 and \$1,000,000 in college scholarships annually."

Carr asserted that the Board's support of various policies and programs has helped students win individual and team state championships in both athletics events and academic competitions (like the annual Social Studies and Science Olympiads), and has contributed to the district's long history of first-division ratings at district and state band and solo-and-ensemble festivals.

Additionally, Board support of programs in computer technology, robotics, health care, culinary arts, and business have brought the district state and national recognition for their excellence.

Carr is also proud of the fact that many Romulus children have achieved high scores on their individual MEAP tests. These scores, he said, have re-

sulted in three district schools earning "A" grades from the State of Michigan's Education YES! program, and others winning the coveted Muth Award for Educational Excellence as well as Michigan's Blue Ribbon School Award.

Carr complimented the Board of Education for maintaining the excellent educational facilities, staff, and programs offered by the Romulus Community Schools.

"Our first-class facilities that feature state-of-the-art technology systems (including over 2,100 computers for the district's 4,300 students) have helped prepare our students for the future, and will enable them to become 'stars' of the 21st-century workforce," he said.

Carr praised the Board's steps to ensure as much funding as possible by approving last year's employee severance program, which will save the district more than \$5 million over the next five years. He also commended the Board for establishing procedures that led to the employment of the district's new Business and Operations director, Sherri Papazoglou, as well as to the current systematic search for a new superintendent to replace him when he retires this June.

Carr hopes that School Board Recognition Month will inspire local residents to express their appreciation for the hard work and dedication of Romulus Board of Education members April Frayer (president), Celeste Roscoe (vice-president), Kenneth Mientkiewicz (secretary), Niema White (treasurer), Betty Lenossi (trustee), Cheryle Buckley (trustee), and Thomas Kuderik (trustee).

"Our board members have worked carefully with students, parents, teachers, and administrators to 'make stars out of students,'" he said. "If you see a Board member around the community, please take a moment to thank him/her for his/her outstanding efforts to provide the very best educational opportunities for the children of Romulus." □

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Schools, City, Clergy Join Together To Honor King

On January 16, Romulus paid its annual tribute to the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with a special program jointly sponsored by the Romulus Community Schools, the City of Romulus, and the Romulus Ministerial Association. This year's event – entitled "Living the Dream, Within and Without" – featured a "Walk for Warmth" freedom march, pancake breakfast, bone-marrow drive, and inspirational program.

Kicking off the celebration was the Walk for Warmth. Approximately 150 city and school officials, clergymen, and other residents braved the cold to march from Romulus Middle School to Romulus High School, where a hot pancakes-and-sausage breakfast (donated by the Romulus Education Association, prepared by Romulus Athletics Department members, and served by RHS cheerleaders) awaited them in the cafeteria. There, they were joined by another 450 community members who also broke their fast before moving into the auditorium for the inspirational program.

Welcoming then enthusiastic crowd were RCS superintendent Joel R. Carr, Romulus Mayor Alan R. Lambert, and Reverend Rita Talley of the First Baptist Church of Romulus. Following their remarks, the program continued with students' tributes to Dr. King and Civil Rights activist Rosa Parks, as well as a performance by the Romulus Community Choir and thought-provoking narratives from Reverend Arthur Willis of the Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church and Reverend John Cole of Union Grove Baptist Church.

Reverend Willis – whose message

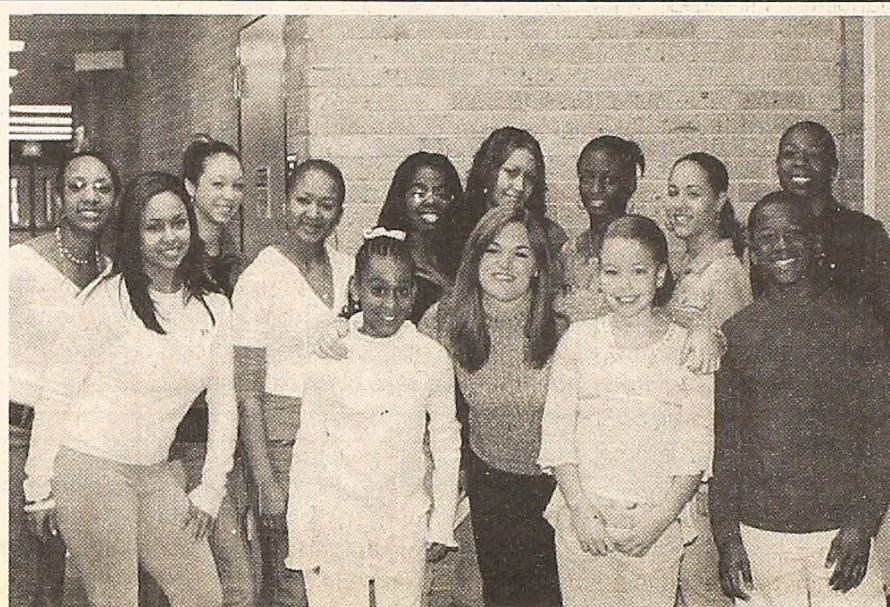


More than 150 community members took part in the annual "Walk for Warmth" freedom march from Romulus Middle School to Romulus High School.

addressed the importance of people helping one another, regardless of their skin color – concluded by urging audience members to take part in the bone-marrow drive being held at RHS that day in support of the district's Technology Department director, Ed Horn, who was recently diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. Students from Romulus High School's health-occupations program were on hand to conduct blood tests and assist potential donors with paperwork.

Other program highlights included a performance of the National Anthem by RHS students Tatiana Gray, Michael Hudson, and La'Joya Rush; inspirational selections from Barth, Merriman, and Romulus Elementary students; video presentations from Cory, Halecreek, and Wick students; dance performances by Kristen Averett and the RHS Step Team, coached by Winifred Wafer; and a monologue, performed by Chenise Smith, that dramatized how Rosa Parks might have felt about her famous bus ride.

More photos on pages 8–9. □



Members of Romulus High School's National Honor Society welcomed guests (including students from Romulus Elementary School) and passed out programs. Pictured are: (from left) front – Megan Whalen, Karyna Smith*, Katie Appel, Cyndee Kidd*, and Victor Mangham*; back – Doloris Garry, Katrell Duncan, Brittney Garrison, Ashley Moss, Theresa Windom, Aurielle McCauley, Brittany Wright, and Erika Wasson. *RES student

Black History Month Program Honors MLK

The Romulus Public Library (located at 11121 South Wayne Road, just south of Goddard) will celebrate Black History Month with "The Dream Lives" – a special tribute to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Guest speaker for the event – which will be held at the library on Thursday, February 16, beginning at 6 p.m. – will be Rudy Baker, who will discuss the life and legacy of Dr. King.

"The Dream Lives" is a free program that is open to the general public.

For more information about this or other programs at the Romulus Public Library, please call 734-942-7589 during normal business hours: Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturday from 12 to 5 p.m. □



City, school district, and clergy officials who took part in the annual program honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., included: (from left) front – Jason Salhaney (president, Romulus Education Association), Dan Hurst (principal, Romulus High School), Councilman John Barden, Mayor Alan R. Lambert, Reverend Charlotte Huby (First Baptist Church), Marvin Madison, Reverend Rita Talley (First Baptist Church), and Reverend Arthur Willis (Pentecostal Missionary Baptist Church); back – Reverend Frank Howard (Living Rock Church), Reverend John Cole (Union Grove Baptist Church), Ed Clark (Human Resources director, Romulus Community Schools), Tom Dolan (Curriculum director, RCS), Councilman Bill Wadsworth, Council Chairman Randy Gear, Joel R. Carr (superintendent, RCS), Reverend William Kren (Community United Methodist Church), and Councilman Harry Crout.

Honoring Dr. King



(From left) Bonita Campbell-Fultz, Maureen McGlynn, Tondra Bland, Chelsea Smith, and Jackie Evanski – health-occupations students at Romulus High School – took blood samples from prospective bone-marrow donors as part of a drive in support of Technology director Ed Horn, who has been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.



(From left) Members of the Romulus Athletics Department – including Darryl Lewis, Mark Woodson (director), and John Moomaw – and RHS cheerleaders LaBritney Franklin, Jena Paisley, and Kevanna Smith prepared and served pancakes-and-sausage breakfasts (funded by the Romulus Education Association) for 600+ guests.



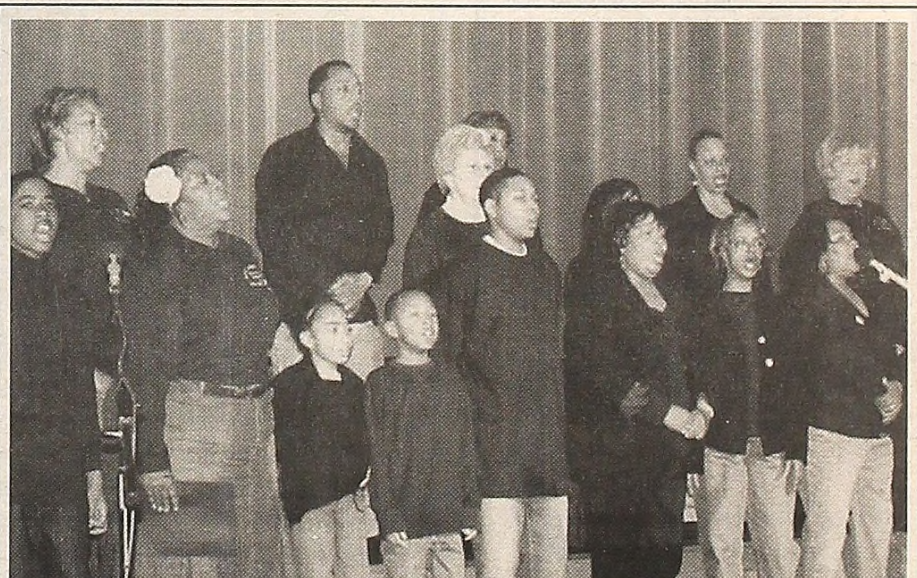
Singing a spirited version of "Freedom" under the direction of first-grade teacher Shila Brim were Barth Elementary sixth-graders: (from left) front – Robin Akers, Kyneth Kyle Noble, Sierra Nathaniel, Briyonne Holt, and Alexi Helton; back – Kayte Nickel, Michael Cadden, Travis Bergman, Chelsea Calhoun, Alex Moore, Devonna Stewart, and Alexis Stevenson.



Merriman Elementary sixth-graders who presented a program about Dr. King's life included: (from left) front – Alexis Turner, Frank Williams, Brandon Brown, Jasmine Mouzon, Chauncey Payne, and Cody Deaton; back – Cierra Tolliver, Gabriel LaMar, Shavontae Melchor, Courtney Taylor, Dontonio Gillespie, Eric Lightsey, Jennifer Lukas, and Joshlyn Booth.



Members of the RHS Step Team – (from left) Brieana Bray, Shaneta Cotton (captain), Carmen Coleman, Tiffany Claiborne, Merrika Brown, Tatiana Gray, and Brittini Brown – gave an impressive performance.



The Romulus Community Choir, under the direction of Romulus City Councilwoman Ellen Bragg (not pictured), sang "For Every Mountain" and "Lord, Lift Your Name on High."

Honoring Dr. King



Romulus Elementary School's celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday included a special presentation on Pulitzer Prize-winning author Gwendolyn Brooks. The presenters included: (from left) Larissa Bailey, Dakota Kozik, Diana Valencia, Sarah Kuczynski, Damiah Woodmore, and Victoria Fields.



Giving a PowerPoint presentation called "Martin's Big Words" were RES teacher Rochelle Watson's fourth-graders, including: (from left) front – L'Daesia Brown, DeJhana Cole, Sean Walkowiak, Jasmon Harmon, and Chazz Whitehead; back – Blake Mills, Elantra Bradford, Karyna Smith, Marcus Allen, Ashleigh Kendrick, Jayla Smith, and Cydnee Kidd.



Members of Romulus Elementary School's organizing committee for the annual Martin Luther King Day celebration were (from left) Rochelle Watson, Jill Devers, and Shawn Dickson.



RES second-grader Madison Alexander did a good job with her "I Have a Dream" speech.



Singing "Circle the World with Peace" were Merriman Elementary teacher Linda Goulet's kindergartners: (from left) front – Caleb Whiting, Donyaé Wesley, MacKayla Ward, Manaia Toilolo, Toni Strong, Mahreen Siddiqui, and Jay Seeley; back – Ja'Veon Coleman, Tyler Marsiglia, Gregory Jordan, Eric Hadden, and Darwin Brooks.



Proudly showing off their signs from the All-School Freedom March were students from Wick Elementary: (from left) front – Elexus Lee, Nancy Burcroff, Anton Hayes, Elisah Perry, Fred McAnally, Aaliyah Mosley, and Ciera Gasser; back – Ciara Dawson, Louise Hood, Jeremy McCray, Rachel Funderburg, and Chance Weaver.



Other Wick Elementary students who took part in the annual All-School Freedom March included: (from left) Patrick Hall, Cameron Marion, Clarissa Sigh, Rafael Christian-Thomas, Raynal Duesette, Briana Woodford, Jalinn Tyson, Marquise Legion, Kyra Millwood, and Melanie Coak.

Adult Education Welcomes Visit from State Career Expert



Sharman Spieser (left), Adult Education director for Romulus Community Schools, recently welcomed Jeannine LaPrad (right), vice-president of the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, to the district's Mt. Pleasant Education Center. LaPrad talked about life goals and education with Adult Ed students, including: (from left) front – Fallon Sanders and Crystal Gilliam; back – Victor Stanley, Nathan Campbell, Mark Woods, and Tajakalic Rupert.

Romulus Adult Education and GED Program director Sharman Spieser recently welcomed Jeannine LaPrad, vice-president of the Corporation for a Skilled Workforce, to the district's Mt. Pleasant Education Center. LaPrad's company has been hired by the State to study Michigan's adult education programs.

During her visit to Romulus, LaPrad interviewed students enrolled in high-school-completion and GED classes to see how the programs are helping them achieve their life goals. She also talked with Adult Education director Spieser, who shared her views about the students' aims and accomplishments, and took a tour of the community.

"LaPrad had a much better understanding about the need for adult education/GED programs in Romulus after the student interviews and tour," Spieser said. "She was impressed by the sincerity and efforts shown by our students."

Spieser said that the Romulus Adult Education/GED program has had a long history of success, and has given many area residents that second chance they needed to better themselves.

Spieser also noted that annual commencement ceremonies are always impressive, as enthusiastic families, friends, and other supporters fill the Romulus Fieldhouse to capacity and cheer for their graduates.

Local 64 Attends AFSCME Meeting



Willie Williams (second from left), chairperson of the Michigan AFSCME (American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees) Women's Committee, welcomed Local 64 (Romulus) members (from left) Kim Wells (president), Karen McFall, Alice Clubb (chief steward), Karen Zilka, and Sally Manning to the group's annual Women's Conference in Frankenmuth.

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Merriman's Sixth-graders Explore Professional Careers



Sixth-grade teachers Simona Miller (left) and Ruthanne Lhiva (second from right) welcomed Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity members (from left) Jay Prestage, Dr. Reginald Grandison, and Jay Bennet to Merriman Elementary for a Career Pathways program. Also pictured is teacher Kelly Upchurch.

Sixth-grade students at Merriman Elementary were treated to a visit from members of Alpha Phi Alpha's Gamma Lambda Chapter during their school's recent Career Pathways program. Teachers Simona Miller and Ruthanne Lhiva invited Dr. Reginald Grandison, Jay Prestage, and Jay Bennet to talk to students about their respective careers in optometry, engineering, and human resources management.

Dr. Grandison, an optometrist, told students of his undergraduate- and graduate-school years and the career that followed. Afterward, teacher Miller noted, "I saw some real interest created in my students by Dr. Grandison's presentation. I believe that they will now recognize the hard work they will have to do in the future in order to become successful in the health-care field."

Following Jay Prestage's presentation about his education and subsequent career as a design engineer for General Motors, teacher Lhiva said, "My students learned about all the expertise they would have to acquire in math, CAD/CAM, and industrial design, and how challenging classes in these subjects would be. Mr. Prestage's presentation sparked an interest in several of my students, who indicated that they

would like to learn more about his field."

Jay Bennet, a global human resources manager for GM, also inspired interest among the students. As he discussed his career path and talked about the work he does on a daily basis, he stressed the importance of achieving good grades and maintaining good citizenship in order to be hired by a major corporation. He also addressed the importance of reliability, cooperation, and the ability to get along with co-workers.

Merriman principal Shellie Moore was pleased with the presentations.

"Our sixth-grade students were really impressed by the career accomplishments of the panel," said Moore. "Panel members talked about the types of classes that students would have to take in high school and college, and what would be expected of them."

"This Career Pathways project also allowed our students to meet successful African-American men and learn how they achieved their goals," she added.

Moore concluded by thanking the program participants.

"We really appreciate the gentlemen from Alpha Phi Alpha coming to Merriman, spending time with our sixth-graders, and inspiring them to do good things in the future," she said. □



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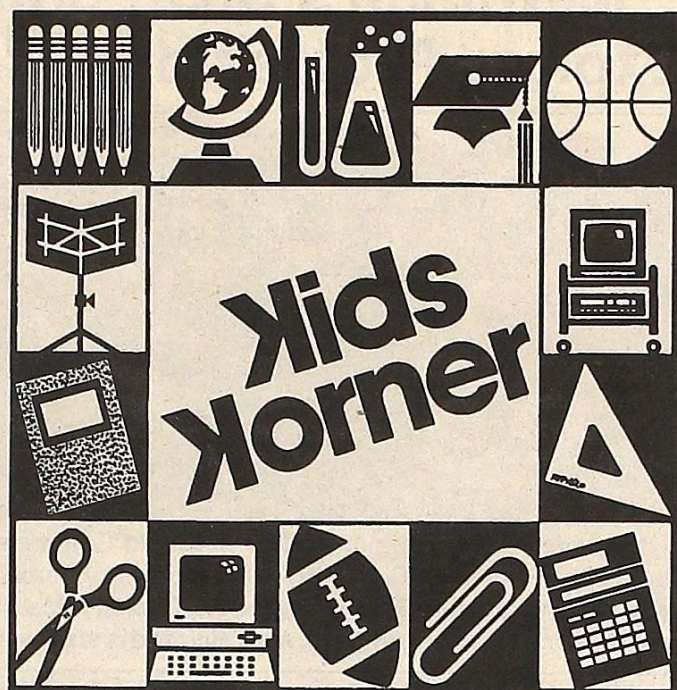
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January jokes

HERE are a few jokes to share with your friends.

When is a clock on the stairs dangerous?

When it runs down and strikes one.

Why are dogs like trees?

They both have barks.

How do you keep a fool in suspense?

I'll tell you next week.

Why is the letter "E" lazy?

Because it's always in bed.

What makes a chess player happy?

Taking a knight off.

Nurse: "There's a man outside with a wooden leg called Smith."

Doctor: "What's the name of his other leg?"

Patient: "My hair is coming out. What can you give me to keep it in?"

Doctor: "A paper bag."

What did the pony say when it coughed?

"Excuse me, I'm a little horse."

What did the pencil say to the eraser?

Take me to your ruler.

Why don't chickens have trunks?

Because they don't go swimming.

What 7-letter name has only three letters?

Barbara.

What would happen if you swallowed your knife and fork?

You would have to eat with your hands.

Mother: "Why did you put this frog in your sister's bed?"

Little Boy: "Because I couldn't find a mouse."

What is the difference between a hungry man and a greedy man?

One longs to eat and the other eats too long.

What starts with a "T," ends with a "T" and is full of "T"?

A teapot.

What is long and thin and says Hith, Hith?

A snake with a lisp.

Why did the naughty boy put ice cubes in his aunt's bed?

Because he wanted to make antifreeze.

Why is the letter "T" like an island?

Because it comes in the middle of water.

When Adam met Eve for the first time, what three words, which read the same backwards and forwards, did he say?

"Madam, I'm Adam."

Tom: "Mom, may I go out and play?"

Mom: "What! With those torn jeans?"

Tom: "No. With my friends down the road."

Why should you stay calm when you meet a cannibal?

You don't want to get into a stew.

I can run but I can't walk. What am I?

Water.

K1920004

DID YOU KNOW?

by AL

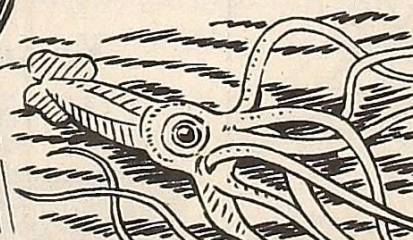
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REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 9, 2006

The Regular Meeting of the Romulus Board of Education held on Monday, January 9, 2006, was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President April Frayer.

Roll call showed members Frayer, Celeste Roscoe, Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Niema White, Betty Lenossi, Cheryle Buckley, and Thomas Kuderik present. Administrators present were: Joel R. Carr, Superintendent; Tom Dolan, Director of Curriculum; and Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Frayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

01/06/1 Moved by White, supported by Roscoe, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

01/06/2 Moved by Buckley, supported by Kuderik, that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of December 12, 2005, as presented. Ayes: 5. Abstain: 2 (Frayer and White). Nays: 0. Motion carried.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Personnel Actions

Mr. Ed Clark, Director of Human Resources, offered the following Personnel Actions for Board approval.

EMPLOYMENT: Sherri Papazoglou, Director of Business and Operations, effective January 30, 2006.

01/06/3 Moved by Mientkiewicz, supported by White, that the Board of Education accept the recommendation of the Personnel Committee and appoint Sherri Papazoglou as Director of Business and Operations for Romulus Community Schools with a two-year contract, effective January 30, 2006, at an annual salary of \$105,000. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Bills for Payment

01/06/4 Moved by Lenossi, supported by Buckley, to approve the Bills for Payment as presented by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Civil Rights Compliance Plan for Career and Technical Education Programs

01/06/5 Moved by White, supported by Roscoe, that the Board of Education adopt the Civil Rights Compliance Plan for Career and Technical Education Programs, as presented. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

Middle School Presentation – Phyllis Adkins, Rhonda Henry, and Middle School Staff

Ms. Phyllis Adkins, Mrs. Rhonda Henry, and staff appeared before the Board of Education to give an overview of academic and climate programs that have been implemented at the Middle School to enhance overall student achievement. The presentation also highlighted many of the RMS climate initiatives, including "The Romulus Way," positive incentives for student behavior, the Student of the Month program, the Responsibility System, and increased parental involvement. Results of the school's efforts were also reviewed. It was noted that there has been a significant decrease in behavior referrals and suspensions.

Communications and Expressions from the Public

Mrs. Wiggins appeared before the Board of Education with concerns about the Middle School, and was asked to meet with Superintendent Joel R. Carr.

Mr. Robert DeMoise appeared before the Board of Education with concerns about an incident at Romulus High School, and requested answers in writing to these concerns.

Items of Interest from the Superintendent

The following Items of Interest were presented to the Board by Mr. Joel R. Carr, Superintendent: 1) Thank You – Faith Sheptoski-Forbush; 2) Thank You – Tom and Lee Plum; 3) Thank You – Billy McCraight; and 4) Communication re Superintendent Search – April Frayer.

QUESTIONS AND/OR CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS:

Mrs. Celeste Roscoe reminded the community that Financial Aid Night at Romulus High School was scheduled for January 19, 2006 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Cheryle Buckley informed the community about activities planned in commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on Monday, January 16, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT:

01/06/6 Moved by Mientkiewicz, supported by Lenossi, to adjourn. Ayes: 7. Nays: 0. Motion carried.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Kenneth Mientkiewicz, Secretary
Romulus Board of Education

Public Service Credit Union Continues RHS Partnership



Rebecca Jones (right), former manager of the Public Service Credit Union branch located in Romulus High School, was happy to share news of the credit union's plans to build a new home office in Romulus with current RHS branch manager Melissa Nelson.

Public Service Credit Union recently celebrated the first anniversary of its special branch office located in the Romulus High School store. The RHS branch, which employs some of the school's top business students, services both students and staff members during their lunch periods.

RHS branch manager Melissa Nelson has worked closely with business-technology teachers Cynthia Thackberry and Julia Salerno, who recommend students with good grades in accounting and marketing for employment in the school's branch office. The PSCU-RHS partnership is profitable for both

parties, since it gives students an opportunity for education about firsthand experience in various careers in the financial-services industry, and also provides PSCU with a pool of potential future employees.

PSCU representative Rebecca Jones, a former manager of the RHS branch, recently announced that her company will continue to strengthen its ties with Romulus by opening a new credit union/home office on Merriman Road across from the Crowne Plaza.

The credit union also operates a traditional branch office at the corner of Ecorse and Merriman in Romulus. □

Romulus Woman Wins Airport Employee Weight-loss Challenge

Barbara Longre of Romulus, a Wayne County Airport Authority employee for the past three years, has won the Women's Division of the "Get Healthy Tri-City Challenge" sponsored by Abbott, a global, broad-based health-care company.

Longre, who won \$300 in prize money for the combination of weight and inches lost due to participation in the weight-loss program, will now represent WCAA in the next phase of the contest.

The challenge, based on the Body-for-Life program designed by fitness author and EAS founder Bill Phillips, helps to initiate personal change by integrating intense, physical workouts (six times a week) with

nutrition guidelines (six small meals a day) and personal goal-setting.

EAS – a subsidiary of Abbott – put together the Get Healthy Tri-City Challenge between Detroit, Chicago, and Houston because *Men's Fitness Magazine* rated all three cities in its "Fattest Cities" list for a number of years.

Longre's next step will be to travel to Chicago in February to compete against other winners from Houston, Chicago, and Detroit.

If she wins that leg of the competition, she will receive \$1,000 cash and the chance to advance to the 2006 national competition, which features an opportunity to win \$1,000,000 from EAS. □

Community Calendar

- **"Early Church Worship Service"** – Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have lived and worshipped during the early church period? Thanks to a dramatization presented by musician/actor Paul McKenzie, you'll have that chance. Join Community United Methodist Church (corner of Bibbins and Olive in downtown Romulus) at 7 p.m. on Saturday, January 28, to see this unique program, which will be preceded by a potluck supper at 6 p.m. This event is open to the public, and no admission will be charged. (A freewill offering may be made during intermission.) For more information, call Kathy at the church office: 734-941-0736.
- **Chicken Dinner at CUMC** – A chicken dinner will be served at Community United Methodist Church (corner of Bibbins and Olive in downtown Romulus) at noon on Sunday, January 29, after the morning worship service. The menu will consist of fried chicken, baked potato, 7-layer salad, carrots, rolls, pie, and beverage. Suggested donation is \$9 for adults and \$5 for children ages 5 to 12. Carry-out available. For more information, call Kathy at the church office: 734-941-0736.
- **Family Reading and Science Programs** – The Romulus Public Library's "Life Through the Ages" program will continue at the library (located at 11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, February 4 ("Magnificent Mesozoic: Into the Air"), and conclude from 10 to 11 a.m. on Saturday, March 4 ("Sensational Cenozoic: Back to the Sea"). These free, hands-on programs for children ages 6 to 11 will provide families with opportunities to read and learn together about the fossil record and geological time, with an in-depth look at many fascinating organisms. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **Library To Start Teen Book and Pizza Club** – The Romulus Public Library (located at 11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) is organizing a Teen Book and Pizza Club to promote great books and lively discussion. All programs will take place at 6 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month beginning February 7. For further information about the program, please call the library at 734-942-7589.
- **Little League Registration** – Romulus Little League will hold its annual registration for baseball and softball at the Romulus Recreation Center (35765 Northline Road) on Friday, February 10, from 5 to 8 p.m., and Saturday, February 11, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Registrants must bring three proofs of residency as well as an original birth certificate for each player. Cost is \$40 for the first child, plus an additional \$15 for each additional brother/sister. A \$20-per-family volunteer deposit is also required; it will be returned once four hours of volunteer time have been completed. *Please note that participation in a candy fund-raiser is also required.* For more info, call 734-955-6204 or visit romuluslittleleague@comcast.net.
- **"Second Monday" Book Club** – Meetings of the Romulus Public Library's new Second Monday Book Club – open to everyone 18 and older – will be held at the Romulus Public Library (11121 South Wayne Road, south of Goddard) from 7 to 8:15 p.m. on the second Monday of each month. Advance registration is not required; just read the suggested book, then drop in. Copies of the suggested books will be available at the library, or library staff members can assist you in getting an interlibrary loan. Books planned for upcoming discussions include: *The Color of Water: A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother* (fiction) by James McBride (February 13); *Dearly Devoted Dexter* (a mystery) by Jeff Lindsay (March 13); *The Great Gatsby* (classic fiction) by F. Scott Fitzgerald (April 10); *Beautiful Jim Key* (nonfiction) by Mim Eichler Rivas (May 8); and *Chocolat* (fiction) by Joanne Harris. For more information, call 734-942-7589.
- **GriefShare** – GriefShare recovery seminar and support group meets at the Romulus Wesleyan Church (37300 Goddard, at Five Points) each Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. According to seminar facilitator Barbara Schultz, GriefShare features nationally recognized experts on grief and recovery topics. Seminar sessions include "When Your Dreams Fall Apart," "The Seasons of Grief," "Emotions of Grief," "When Your Spouse Dies," "Your Family and Grief," and "Growing Through Grief." For more information, call the church at 734-941-1511 or visit www.griefshare.org.

To place information in our next issue's Community Calendar, mail it to "the little paper" at P.O. Box 74038, Romulus, MI 48174-0038; FAX it to us at 734-992-2052; or call 734-941-1907

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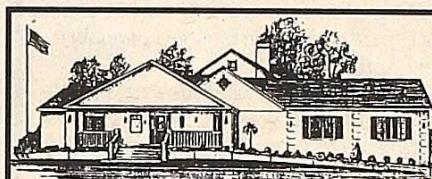
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BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you are a resident of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your new addition (child or grandchild). If possible, please enclose a photograph of your new arrival. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS
P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Baby's Name _____
Birthdate _____ Time _____
Weight _____ Length _____
Birthplace _____
Parents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Siblings _____

Maternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Paternal Grandparents _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the birth to this form.

The Stork Arrived

Javarri Marcus Watts



Javarri Marcus Watts

Proudly announcing the birth of their new son, Javarri Marcus Watts, are Orlando Watts (Detroit, MI) and Crystal Kilmer (Romulus, MI).

Javarri was born in Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital at 3:29 a.m. on Wednesday, November 23, 2005, weighing 6 lbs., 7 oz., and measuring 18 in.

Especially excited about the new arrival were older siblings Shea, Asia, Orlando, Brenden, Jonathon, Pharrell, and Emilee.

Javarri's paternal grandparents are Wilson and Hattie Watts (Inkster, MI); Dennis and Jackie Minner (Taylor, MI) are his maternal grandparents. □

Mother-Son Valentine Dance

The City of Romulus Department of Parks and Recreation will host its annual Mother-Son Valentine Dance from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 8, in the Romulus High School cafeteria.

A cost of \$8 per couple plus \$2 for each additional son (cash only)

covers music and refreshments plus a flower for Mom and one photo.

Tickets *must* be purchased in advance—*no exceptions*. Register at the Recreation Center (35765 Northline Road) by 12 p.m. on Monday, February 6. Call 734-941-8665 for information. □

ENGAGEMENT/WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENT FORM

If you, or your parents, are residents of Romulus, *The Romulus News* will be happy to print an announcement of your engagement or wedding. If possible, please enclose a photograph. There is no charge. Just fill out the following information and mail to:

THE ROMULUS NEWS
P.O. Box 74038
Romulus, MI 48174-0038

Bride's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Name _____
City _____ State _____
Bride's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Groom's Parents _____
City _____ State _____
Bridesmaids _____
Groomsmen _____
Date of Engagement _____
Date of Wedding _____
Place _____
City _____ State _____
Reception _____
City _____ State _____
Name and phone number of person to contact (in case of questions): _____

Attach any additional information concerning the wedding or engagement to this form.

Wedding Bells

Mark and Bethany (Hotchkiss) Britz

Congratulations to newlyweds Mark and Bethany (Hotchkiss) Britz, who were married on October 21, 2005.

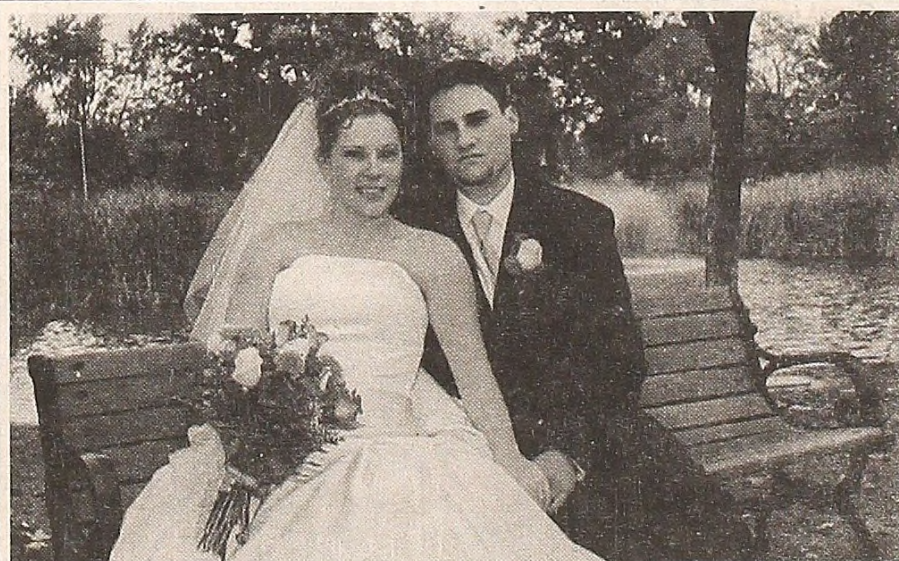
The couple exchanged their vows at Living Word Worship Center (Browns-town, MI).

Standing up with Mark were groomsmen Brad Hindman, Brandon Hindman, Jason Britz, and Luke Hotchkiss.

Bethany was attended by bridesmaids Erin Hotchkiss, Susan Harris, Jennifer Fell, and Jordyn Sherbrook.

A reception at Wayne Tree Manor (Wayne, MI) followed the ceremony.

Mark is the son of Mike Britz (Ypsilanti, MI) and Debbie McCrystal (Belle-ville, MI). Bethany's parents are Tim and Fran Hotchkiss (Romulus, MI). □



Bethany and Mark Britz (photo by Steve Wixon)

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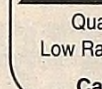
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Guest Speaker: Mr. Rudy Baker